
The Panama Pacific International Exposition Perfin (P-188) A Follow-Up (Dave Savadge)

The article by Bill Lesh printed in issue 592 of the Perfins Bulletin is one of the best I have ever read for providing a general high-level overview of operations at the Panama Pacific International Exposition in San Francisco. I will now expand on some further interesting examples and uses of the only perfin ever used by an exposition.

The largest known block with P-188, either mint or used, this mint block of 10 of the 2-cent Washington-Franklin definitive.

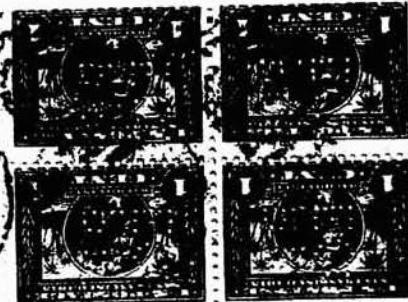


The only known mint copies of special delivery stamps with P-188.



The largest multiple of P-188 known on cover, from the Department of Official Coins and Medals, 27 January 1916.

PANAMA-PACIFIC INTERNATIONAL EXPOSITION
SAN FRANCISCO 1915
DEPARTMENT OF OFFICIAL COINS AND MEDALS
SERVICE BUILDING. 1916.



Mr. A. L. Lyon,

313 Bond Street,

Asbury Park,

N.J.

One of two known Panama Pacific special delivery perfins on cover. Another P-188 perfinned special delivery stamp has been recorded on a cut-out piece.



Mr. James A. Barr,

1418 LeRoy St.,

Berkeley,

Cal.

19 June 1914: San Francisco, Newark and Santa Cruz RPO.
A most interesting use of the perfin on a card to pre-pay return postage, a forerunner to today's business reply mail.



Manager

Bureau of CONVENTIONS and SOCIETIES

Panama-Pacific International Exposition

San Francisco,

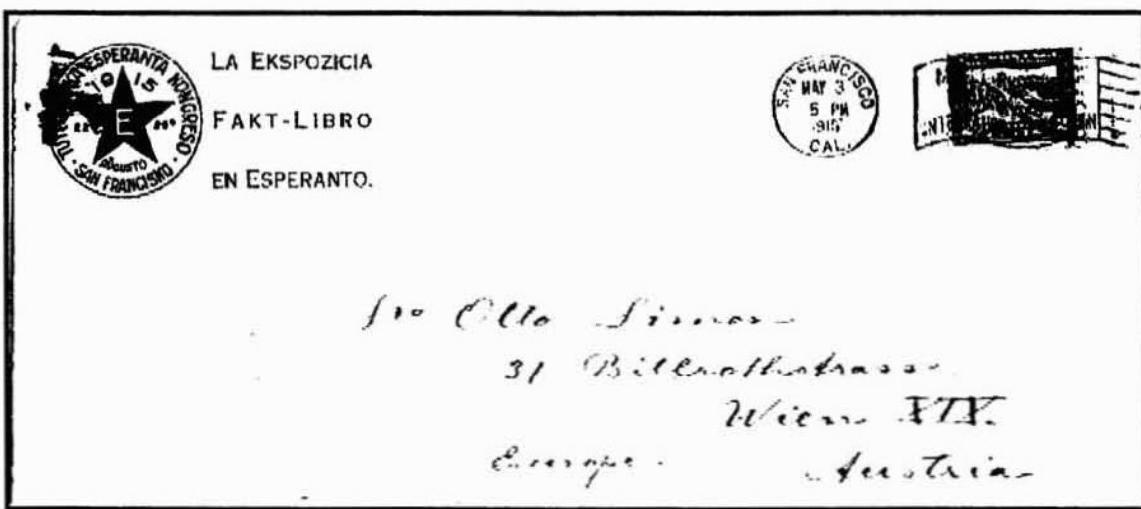
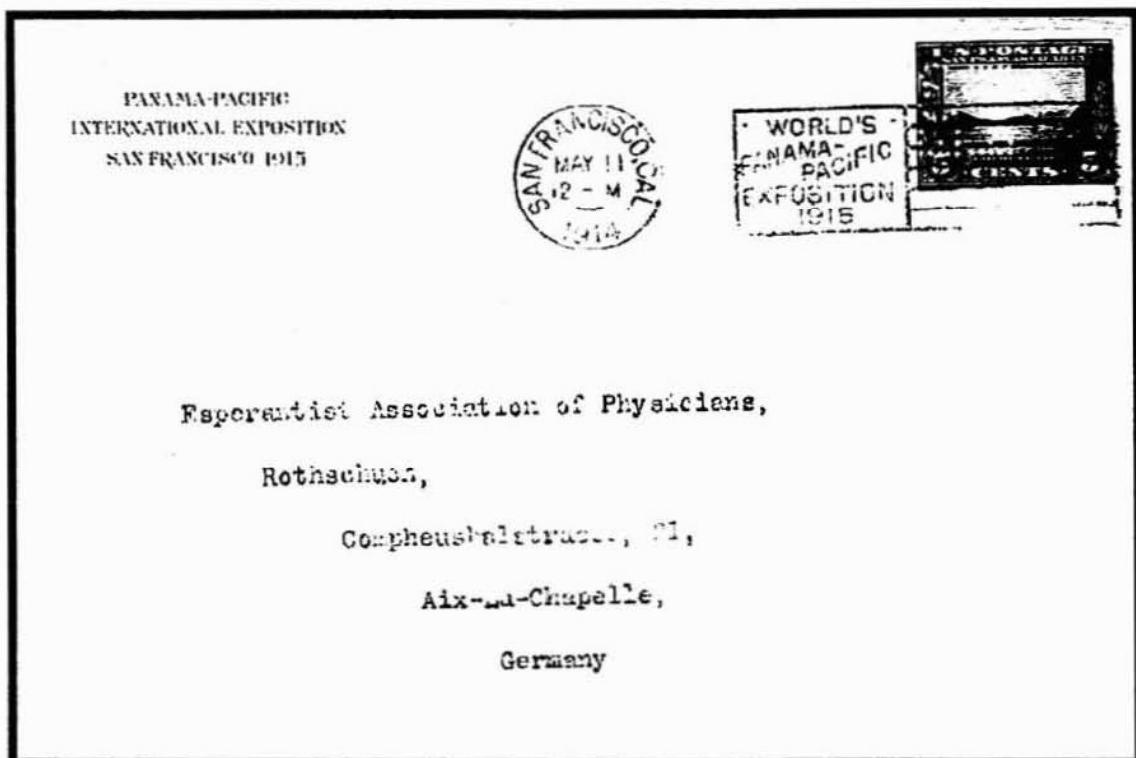
California.

NATIONAL OR INTERNATIONAL

1. NAME OF ORGANIZATION _____
2. NAME OF SECRETARY _____
ADDRESS _____
3. TIME AND PLACE OF NEXT MEETING _____
4. MEETS HOW OFTEN _____
5. NAMES AND ADDRESSES OF PROMINENT MEMBERS IN OR NEAR SAN FRANCISCO

Only this one unused example has been recorded; the expo's business office probably destroyed the returned cards after extracting the information from the reverse side. Such used cards would have a variety of non-San Francisco cancellations from all over the country.

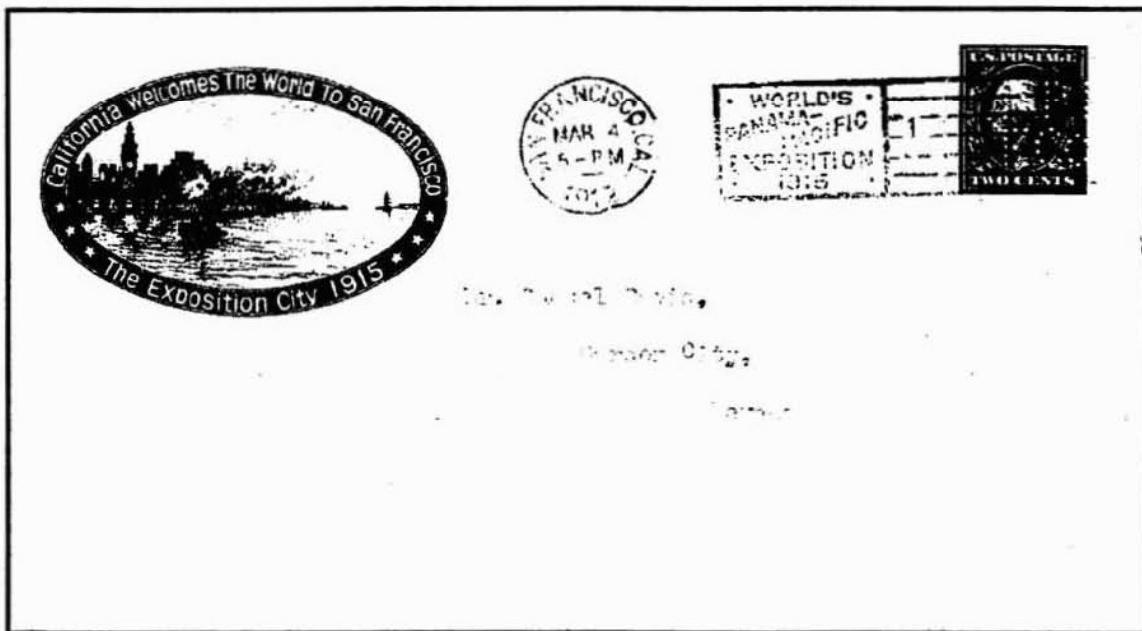
The only recorded on-cover example of P-188 on the Panama Pacific 5-cent stamp used to a foreign country. Esperanto related address.



Another Esperanto related cover with P-188:

3 May 1915: Bomar SF15-03, to Austria, double printed matter rate, sent unsealed.

In Bill's article, he indicates that the first use of P-188 occurred in February 1912. This statement is in error, but not Bill's fault. I am guilty, I provided him incorrect information when we corresponded – my memory isn't what it used to be. So blame me for the mistake, not Bill. The earliest known use of P-188, as of now, is 4 March 1912. However, this does not preclude an earlier dated cover.



Finally, the only known illegitimate use of the Panama Pacific perfins, on a tourist card postmarked 19 February 1914 in Omaha.

